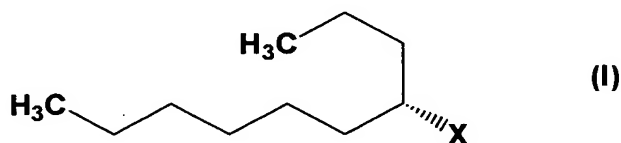


CLAIMS

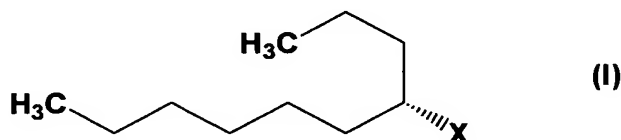
1. A process for producing (2R)-2-propyloctanoic acid, which comprises:
subjecting (2R)-2-hexyloxirane to a two-carbon adding reaction with ring-opening reaction, followed by a protecting reaction of a hydroxyl group to convert it to a compound represented by formula (I):



wherein X represents an optionally protected hydroxyl group, and then
subjecting the compound to a one-carbon adding reaction to convert it to (2R)-2-propyloctanamide, followed by recrystallization and hydrolysis.

2. A process for producing (2R)-2-propyloctanoic acid, which comprises
hydrolyzing (2R)-2-propyloctanamide.

3. A process for producing (2R)-2-propyloctanamide, which comprises
subjecting a compound represented by formula (I):

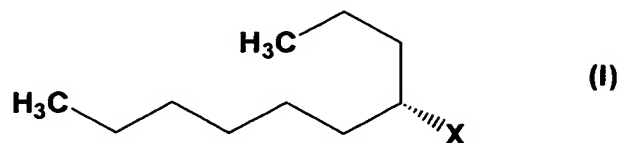


wherein X represents the same meaning as in claim 1,
to a one-carbon adding reaction.

4. (2R)-2-Propyloctanamide.

5. Substantially pure (2R)-2-propyloctanamide.

6. A compound represented by formula (I):



wherein X represents an optionally protected hydroxyl group.

7. The compound according to claim 6, wherein X is p-toluenesulfonyloxy or methanesulfonyloxy.